

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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### **State of Iowa and Omaha Tribe Successfully Conclude Compact Negotiations**

DES MOINES, IOWA – Compact negotiations between the State of Iowa and the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska have concluded, according to Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) Director Steve Young and newly-elected Omaha Tribal Chairperson Mitchell Parker. The provisions of the Compact remain confidential until the U.S. Department of the Interior reviews, approves, and publishes it in the Federal Register. Director Young and Chairperson Parker stated, “The interest of both sovereigns, the State of Iowa and the Omaha Tribe, have been contemplated and the process has resulted in a Compact that respects and is endorsed by both sovereigns.”

The Department notified the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, which operates Casino Omaha near Onawa, nearly one year ago of its intent to begin the renegotiation process pursuant to the terms of the Compact. The Tribe responded to the notice and negotiation teams met three times during the intervening months. The current Compact was for eight years and would have expired on December 31, 2006.

“The Tribal Council has served the members of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska well throughout the negotiation process,” DIA Director Young said. “They brought an excellent understanding of the process to the negotiations, which resulted in a very productive and positive experience for all of us.”

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*Omaha Compact*